



COVID-19 COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

- Wash hands and wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Aseptically remove sterile swab from package.

Nasopharyngeal Swab

- Tilt patient's head back slightly to straighten nasal passage.
- Insert swab straight back horizontally to the nasopharynx until resistance is met.
- Gently rub and roll the swab. Leave swab in place for several seconds.

NMT (Nasal Mid-Turbinate) Swab

- Tilt patient's head back 70 degrees.
- While gently rotating the swab, insert swab less than one inch (about 2 cm) into nostril (until resistance is met at turbinates).
- Rotate the swab several times against nasal wall and repeat in other nostril using the same swab.

Anterior Nares Specimen

- Using a flocked or spun polyester swab, insert the swab at least 1 cm (0.5 inch) inside the nostril (naris)
- Firmly sample the nasal membrane by rotating the swab and leaving in place for 10 to 15 seconds.
- Sample both nostrils with same swab.

Oropharyngeal Swab

- Insert swab into the posterior pharynx and tonsillar areas. Rub swab over both tonsillar pillars and posterior oropharynx and avoid touching the tongue, teeth and gums.

- Place swab into the viral transport medium and break off handle where indicated.
- Cap tightly, label with patient name and one other unique identifier.
- Complete the Incyte requisition.
- Refrigerate specimen until ready for transport to the lab.
- Transport refrigerated in cooler or with cool packs to maintain 2-8°.